

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED MARCH 31

1984

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED MARCH 31

1984





320 Legislature Building, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5K 2B6 403/427-2134

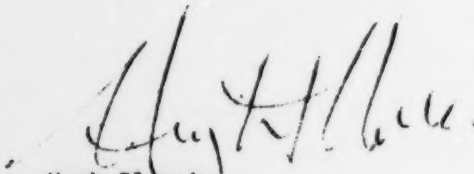
November 1984

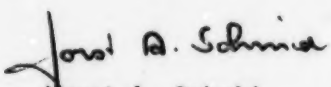
Hon. Gerard J. Amerongen
Office of the Speaker
Legislative Assembly of Alberta
Room 325, Legislature Building
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 2B7

Dear Sir:

We have the honour to present the annual report of Alberta
Economic Development for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1984.

Respectfully submitted,


Hugh Planche
Minister
Economic Development


Horst A. Schmid
Minister
International Trade

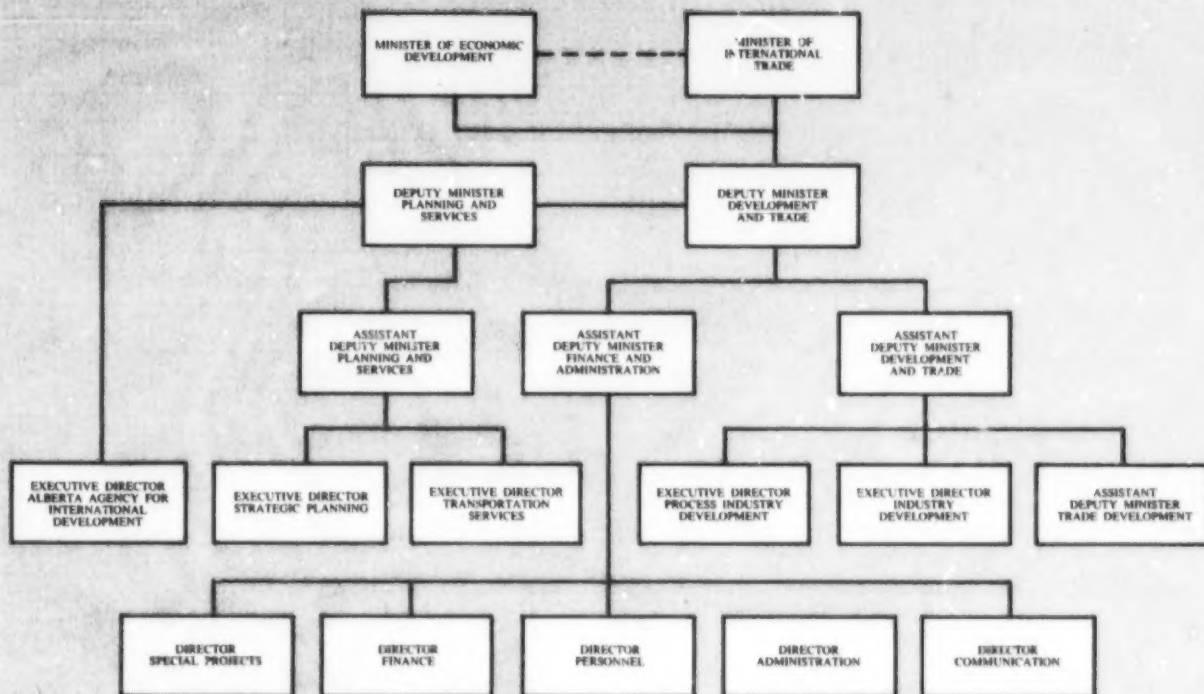


Contents

Organization Chart	vii
Finance and Administration Division	1
Administration Branch	1
Finance Branch	1
Budget Estimates, Special Warrants and Expenditures	2
Personnel Branch	3
Communication Branch	3
Special Projects	4
Development and Trade Division	5
Trade Development Branch	5
Trade Expositions Sector	5
United States Sector	5
Latin America Sector	6
Europe/Middle East/Africa/Soviet Union Sector	6
Pacific/Asia Sector	6
Canada Sector	6
Specialty Projects Sector	7
International Finance Sector	7
Mission Co-ordination Sector	7
International Offices	7
Industry Development Branch	8
Engineering and Construction Section	8
Film Industry Section	9
High Technology Section	9
Manufacturing Section	9
Process Industry Development Branch	10
Chemicals Sector	10
Energy Sector	11
Metals and Minerals Sector	11
Food Industries Sector	11
Forest Industries Sector	11
Health Care Industries Sector	11
Investment Sector	12
Planning and Services Division	13
Strategic Planning Branch	13
Development Priorities and Evaluation	14
Futures Assessment	14
Domestic Economic Structural Analysis	14
International Economic Structural Analysis	15
Transportation Services Branch	15
Transportation Economics and Analysis Section	15
Freight Transportation Services Sector	16
Agricultural Transportation Section	16
Passenger Transportation Section	17
Alberta Agency for International Development	18



Organization Chart





Finance and Administration Division

Administration Branch
Finance Branch
Personnel Branch
Communication Branch
Special Projects



Finance and Administration Division

The responsibility of the Finance and Administration Division is to provide support to the department's program divisions. This responsibility is undertaken by the division's five branches: Administration, Finance, Personnel, Communication, and Special Projects.

The division is also responsible for co-ordinating the department's legal requirements. Legal work related to contracts and legal opinions is sent to the Alberta Attorney General, where it is assigned to a lawyer for action.

Reports from the five branches are published on this and the following pages.

Financial statements of the department's budgetary estimates and expenditures are shown on the next page.

Administration Branch

The Administration Branch provides:

- ☐ Management of departmental electronic data processing (EDP) facilities and resources.
- ☐ Management of word processing systems.
- ☐ Records management.
- ☐ Library services.
- ☐ Office support systems.

During the period under review, the branch's EDP Systems Group, in conjunction with the Office Automation Branch of Alberta Public Works, Supply and Services, assessed the department's needs in word processing/electronic office systems. On the basis of the findings, a shared resource word - processing system will be installed in the 1984-85 fiscal year.

The Systems Group also further consolidated the departmental Company Information System, including the federal/provincial Business Opportunity Sourcing System.

In the area of records management, two new file classification systems were developed for the Offices of the Ministers, and a major program of disposition of inactive/semi-active files was commenced.

There was an increase in library use of approximately 25 per cent: 8,157 visits were made to the facility against 6,521 in the previous reporting period. In total, 9,546 items were borrowed and 500 inter-library loans were recorded. Several new information data bases were added to the library's information system. An increase of 15 per cent was recorded in the number of searches conducted for departmental staff.

The Office Support Services Group was reorganized during the year to accommodate the higher levels of activity required. The group is responsible for accommodation, purchasing, mail, telecommunications, parking, and central support services.

Finance Branch

The Finance Branch provides centralized accounting, budgeting, and legal support services to the department. The branch also participates in short- and long-term financial planning. Specifically, its functions are to:

- ☐ Establish and maintain departmental accounting and budgetary records.
- ☐ Prepare annual departmental budgets, monitor expenditures throughout the fiscal year; and obtain alternative sources or additional funding when the need arises.
- ☐ Process grants, employee expense accounts and vendor accounts for payment; ensure compliance with the Financial Administration Act and other government acts and regulations.
- ☐ Co-ordinate the department's legal requirements by providing guidance and arranging for contracts and agreements.
- ☐ Develop and implement internal controls which advocate acceptable accounting practices.
- ☐ Provide recommendations, and implement financial policies and procedures established by the department's management committee.

Significant activities during the 1983-84 fiscal year included the preparation and approval of two special warrants:

- 1) \$174,000 to provide funding for the Government of Alberta's participation in The Great Trade Show and Cultural Exhibition of China.
- 2) \$1,000,000 to assist General Systems Research Ltd. finance a program to manufacture laser-cutting systems and to carry out a research and development program relating to the industrial application and adaptation of these systems.

Alberta Economic Development Budget Estimates, Special Warrants and Expenditures Classified by Vote and Sub-Program

	1983-84 Estimates	Special Warrants	Fund Transfers	Total Authorized	Expenditures for the Years Ending March 31 1984(a)	March 31 1983
VOTE 1 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE						
Sub-Program 1: Program Support						
Minister's Office - Economic Development	258,000	—	500	258,500	253,711	224,355
Minister's Office - International Trade	344,400	—	18,500	362,900	281,561	313,570
Deputy's Office - Planning and Services	183,000	—	18,000	201,000	199,125	169,918
Deputy's Office - Development and Trade	243,100	—	18,600	261,700	244,812	203,320
Finance and Administration Division	2,019,900	—	381,500	2,401,400	2,310,012	1,762,331
Total Sub-Program 1	3,048,400	—	437,100	3,485,500	3,289,221	2,673,494
Sub-Program 2: Planning and Services						
Assistant Deputy's Office - Planning & Services	145,100	—	10,000	155,100	135,525	128,632
Transportation Services Branch	2,846,100	—	(260,800)	2,585,300	2,383,313	2,152,919
Strategic Planning Branch	1,804,800	—	91,600	1,896,400	1,869,731	1,555,508
Total Sub-Program 2	4,796,000	—	(159,200)	4,636,800	4,388,569	3,837,059
Sub-Program 3: Development of Industrial Programs						
Assistant Deputy's Office - Development & Trade	172,000	—	(27,100)	144,900	123,703	164,503
Industry Development Branch	3,085,200	—	(120,500)	2,964,700	2,798,138	2,483,666
Process Industry Development Branch	2,301,900	—	(224,500)	2,077,400	1,867,281	1,793,509
Total Sub-Program 3	5,559,100	—	(372,100)	5,187,000	4,789,122	4,441,678
Sub-Program 4: International Trade						
Trade Development Branch	4,303,000	174,000	408,500	4,885,500	4,769,661	4,119,644
International Operations	753,700	—	(64,400)	689,300	506,021	397,911
Total Sub-Program 4	5,056,700	174,000	344,200	5,574,900	5,275,682	4,517,555
Total Vote 1	18,460,200	174,000	250,000	18,884,200	17,742,594	15,469,786
VOTE 2 FINANCING - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS						
Sub-Program 1: Railway Relocation						
Lethbridge Project	—	—	—	—	—	61,100
Total Sub-Program 1	—	—	—	—	—	61,100
Sub-Program 2: Grain Handling/Storage Facilities						
Prince Rupert Grain Terminal	65,550,000	—	—	65,550,000	43,049,491	30,852,906
Total Sub-Program 2	65,550,000	—	—	65,550,000	43,049,491	30,852,906
Sub-Program 3: High Technology						
Medical and Pharmaceutical	1,375,000	—	219,230	1,594,230	1,594,230	3,900,000
Energy	2,250,000	—	(219,230)	2,030,770	2,030,769	1,346,449
Laser Technology	—	1,000,000	—	1,000,000	1,000,000	—
Total Sub-Program 3	3,625,000	1,000,000	—	4,625,000	4,624,999	5,246,449
Total Vote 2	69,175,000	1,000,000	—	70,175,000	47,674,490	36,200,455
VOTE 3 INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE						
Administrative Support	103,100	—	5,500	108,600	102,215	100,786
Financial Assistance	7,000,000	—	—	7,000,000	6,998,889	6,999,940
Total Vote 3	7,103,100	—	5,500	7,108,600	7,101,104	7,100,726
Total Department	94,738,300	1,174,000	255,500	96,167,800	72,518,188	58,779,967

(a) Unaudited

(b) Transferred from the Salary Contingency Fund

Personnel Branch

The Personnel Branch provides advice and assistance at all levels in the department regarding utilization of human resources. Assistance is also provided to ensure that statutory and procedural requirements are met.

Areas of responsibility include position classification, recruitment and selection, manpower utilization, salary and wage administration, organization development, staff development and performance appraisal systems.

At the conclusion of the 1983-84 fiscal year, the department's staff establishment was 223 man-years, broken down as follows:

	Man-Years
Permanent and non-permanent salaried positions	208.00
Wages	8.5
Contract	15.0
	231.5
Vacancy Discount	(8.5)
	223.0

Highlights of branch activity during the reporting period included:

- Providing assistance and advice to management on downsizing and redeployment. The department's permanent position establishment was reduced by two per cent at the end of the fiscal year. This was accomplished without abolishing any occupied positions.
- Providing assistance and advice to management and supervisory staff on employee relations matters.
- Reviewing and processing 53 position classification requests.
- Administering and providing recommendations on 216 requests for sponsored staff development.
- Initiating and administering 18 competitions as well as entry level clerical and temporary recruitment.
- Administering salary and wage operations including the preparation and processing of all payroll documentation.
- Developing or co-ordinating in-house training and development programs to meet specialized needs.

Communication Branch

The Communication Branch provides public relations services to the department. These services include communication consultation; organization of ongoing media relations, such as arrangements for news briefings, interviews, news releases, and response to news media enquiries; preparation of audio-visual materials including film, slide and video tape presentations; and the production of publications, brochures, folders, posters, and reports for the department.

During the reporting period, the branch supplied communication support to Alberta participation in both domestic and international trade shows and outgoing trade missions. Also, for each show and mission, a brochure with company profiles was prepared as a handout, an advertising campaign was planned, and news releases were issued. Company personnel biographies were prepared to supplement the material for outgoing missions.

Other production included pamphlets and booklets on department programs - both new and ongoing. Of particular significance is the quarterly magazine publication "Venture". This magazine first published in the 1983-84 fiscal year is predominantly distributed to overseas companies and businesses featuring articles which would be of interest to international buyers and investors.

Special Projects

A prime objective of Special Projects is to assist Alberta industry satisfy its legitimate financial needs through private or public sector funding.

To implement this objective, the branch undertakes in-depth assessments of individual businesses, looking in particular at the financial needs for large and special projects. If appropriate, recommendations are then made and, if government assistance is approved, the branch becomes involved in drafting the agreement and in implementing the relevant decisions.

During the reporting period, economic assessments of this type were conducted in response to 53 requests for financing from individual businesses.

In addition, the branch makes recommendations to the government on policies and programs designed to stimulate development of specific sectors of the business community. The branch co-operates with other departments in the formulation of government financing programs.

Major projects undertaken during the 1983-84 fiscal year included:

- Obtaining authorization for a \$40 million guarantee on behalf of a company in the forest products industry.
- Obtaining authorization for, and implementing, a policy related to government guarantees in support of manufacturing and processing businesses involved with larger export orders.
- Negotiating the detailed agreement for funding to a manufacturer of laser-cutting systems.
- Negotiating a guarantee for a mineral processing industry.
- Assessing financial assistance requirements for businesses involved with micro-electronics in Alberta.

Development and Trade Division

Trade Development Branch

Industry Development Branch

Process Industry Development Branch



Development and Trade Division

The Development and Trade Division comprises three branches: Trade Development, Industry Development, and Process Industry Development. The division also maintains international offices in London in the United Kingdom, and in Los Angeles and Houston in the United States.

The objective of the division is to assist in the economic development of Alberta by:

- ☐ Assisting in the development and expansion of Alberta companies.
- ☐ Stimulating new investment.
- ☐ Enhancing the performance of the various industrial sectors.
- ☐ Assisting Alberta companies to market their goods and services outside the province.

The Trade Development Branch assists the manufacturing and services sectors to expand trade outside the province by identifying specific export markets and projects, foreign joint ventures, and licensing opportunities. The branch's activities include the co-ordination of Alberta participation in national and international trade shows, and the organization of missions by Alberta firms to foreign markets. The branch also assists foreign trade missions and companies visiting Alberta or seeking information on the province.

The Industry Development Branch assists the province's industrial sectors, particularly those which have export potential. The branch concentrates on the development of the engineering and construction, film, and manufacturing industries; and on the establishment of the province as a centre for research and high technology. Alberta industrial development opportunities are identified, and investment from foreign and domestic sources is encouraged.

The Process Industry Development Branch assists the chemical, petrochemical, energy, food processing, forest products, and health care industry sectors. Emphasis is placed on industries which have opportunities for export development. Joint ventures and direct investment from both foreign and domestic sources are encouraged by this branch.

Reports from each of these branches follow.

Trade Development Branch

Despite the depressed world economic situation, Alberta sustained its export activity in the 1983-84 fiscal year at a level equal to that of the last two years. One reason for this is that, to offset the downturn in the domestic economy, many Alberta companies directed their priorities to international markets. The Trade Development branch responded to this by re-examining and redirecting programs and initiating measures to maintain the level of assistance without increasing the budget.

The value of Alberta's exports in 1983 was estimated at \$11.4 billion, compared to \$11.7 billion in 1982. Primary resources continued to be the leading export item accounting for \$6.3 billion, or 55.2 per cent, of the total. Manufactured products accounted for \$2.8 billion (14.3 per cent), followed by agricultural products at \$1.8 billion (16.1 per cent), and services at \$500,000 (4.3 per cent).

Of the province's total exports, most went to the United States; these were valued at approximately \$8.0 billion. The next most important export destination was the Pacific/Asia area to which goods and services valued at approximately \$670 million were sent.

The branch provided input to the development of the new Economic Strategy for Alberta and developed several recommendations for initiatives and programs to assist the private sector in international marketing. Reports follow from each of the operating sectors into which the branch is organized.

Trade Expositions Sector

This sector participated in ten major international trade shows and fairs, and four domestic trade shows. These included seven oil and gas shows, three farm equipment shows, one equestrian show and one medical show. Significant among these were MEDIC CANADA, an international medical show held at Edmonton; and EQUITANA '83, held at Spruce Meadows near Calgary. The latter was an equestrian event introduced to North America for the first time.

The sector also initiated an audio-visual communication program on its role within the branch.

United States Sector

This sector continued its program of trade expositions and missions designed to encourage more Alberta secondary industries to find a place in the United States market. The program involved the participation of Alberta Government offices in Los Angeles and Houston, and of Canadian consulates in the western United States. Major industry sectors represented in the year's program

included oil and gas equipment, servicing, building products, agricultural equipment, light rail transit, and computer software.

In total, three ministerial missions, 20 outgoing trade and reconnaissance missions, and six incoming buyer missions were organized. Highlights were incoming missions from five of the western United States which are members of the Western Governors' Trade Development Committee. Alberta, in fact, is the first Canadian province to receive such a concentrated series of missions from committee members. Opportunities were also pursued in the State of Alaska.

As a result of this sector's marketing activities, actual sales of \$13 million were reported by Alberta companies during the year.

Latin America Sector

Latin American countries continued to feel the effects of the world economic downturn. While most limited their expenditures, they continued to develop their resource industries in oil and gas, agriculture, forestry, and mining. Exports from Alberta of equipment, services, engineering and technology were aggressively promoted, and the sector participated in mini missions to Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, Trinidad, and Venezuela. The sector also arranged incoming buyer visits from these countries to INTERCAN '83.

Highlights of the year's activity were two seminars conducted for Alberta companies by PEMEX, Mexico's national petroleum company. As a result of the seminars, 35 separate tenders were submitted by Alberta companies. These constituted the largest request for quotes ever made by PEMEX to Canadian companies. Participating companies included manufacturers of oil and gas equipment, as well as technical and engineering support organizations.

Alberta companies reported sales of more than \$18 million as a result of the sector's activities. These included sales of items ranging from off-highway vehicles, refinery parts and wellheads, to slant-hole drilling rigs. Purchasing countries included Colombia, Ecuador, Jamaica, and Venezuela.

Europe/Middle East/Africa/Soviet Union Sector

In Europe, Alberta firms registered sales of oil and gas equipment to the North Sea oil industry. Export items included equipment for conventional drilling rigs, slant-hole drilling rigs and offshore drilling platforms. Alberta firms also continued to win projects and make equipment sales in the Soviet Union. Here, marketing activity undertaken in co-operation with the Canadian Embassy in Moscow again proved to be effective.

The quest for oil and gas continued in many African countries, and Alberta firms were awarded contracts in Kenya, Madagascar and Tanzania. Alberta companies were also involved in exploration activity along the coast of West Africa.

In Kenya, an Alberta company is a guiding force in a major reforestation project.

Promotion was also undertaken in Europe by the sector to encourage technology transfer, joint ventures and direct investment in Alberta. This promotion included two ministerial missions, 13 outgoing missions and reconnaissance visits, as well as 34 incoming buyer missions.

Sales reported by Alberta companies to the sector totalled \$78 million.

Pacific/Asia Sector

The countries in the Asia and Pacific region continued to experience the best economic growth of the world and, as a result, competition for business in these countries was intense. The export from Alberta of oil and gas equipment, services and technology was promoted.

This sector organized programs for five ministerial missions, eight reconnaissance visits, four mini missions and 50 incoming delegations to promote the export of Alberta products.

The sector was also involved with the Pacific Rim Opportunities III Conference held in Calgary from October 5 to 7, 1983. This was the largest Pacific Rim Opportunity Conference to date and was attended by Canadian exporters from all across Canada.

Actual sales reported by Alberta companies as a result of the sector's activities were approximately \$24 million.

Canada Sector

Several initiatives were undertaken by this sector during the year, namely:

- The first incoming furniture buyers' mission of a major Canadian department store saw the placement of \$4 million of immediate orders with Alberta furniture manufacturers. Opportunities exist for continuing sales and the creation or maintenance of some 65 jobs.
- Fourteen Alberta companies participated in the first catalogue and model show to be held in Quebec. Confirmed sales from the event totalled \$2.9 million.
- The first reconnaissance sales visit to the Northwest Territories was made by the sector. This resulted in the signing of pipeline contracts and the negotiation of other sales and joint venture arrangements.

- Nine Alberta companies participated in the sector's first mini mission to New Brunswick. Trade opportunities were identified within the \$3.8 billion Canadian Frigate Program.
- Fourteen Alberta companies participated in the sector's first catalogue and model show in Newfoundland and Nova Scotia. Sales were made to a value of \$1.7 million.

Also during the reporting period, various industry sectors were introduced to new market areas. This process resulted in the confirmation of two joint ventures, 11 licensing arrangements, and 57 distributor/agency agreements.

The Market Development Assistance Program continued to help Alberta businesses expand their export marketing activities. During the 1983-84 fiscal year, 202 applications were processed, an increase of 26 over the previous year.

Specialty Projects Sector

This sector participated in National Export Trade Month activities held in October of 1983. During that month, the Second Annual Alberta Export Achievement Awards Night was held at which 17 Alberta companies were recognized for their achievements in five categories of export development with a wide range of services, equipment and consumer goods.

Also, during the year, companies were assisted in the development of proposals for overseas capital projects in which training was a major component.

A number of countries were given assistance to enable them to send participants to Alberta's Summer Institute for Petroleum Industry Development.

A Ministerial Mission to Pakistan resulted in direct sales to that country by Alberta companies with potential for greater trade activity.

International Finance Sector

This sector assisted Alberta companies engaged on projects which involved funding from international financing institutions such as the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the United Nations, and the Canadian International Development Agency. Countries in which such projects were identified included Bangladesh, China, Colombia, India, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, and the Philippines. The projects involved Alberta companies which specialize in gas utilization, reforestation, aerial surveying, engineering services, oil and gas processing equipment, and oil and gas drilling and exploration equipment.

Several presentations to Alberta companies were arranged to inform them of the services available from the Canadian International Development Agency and the Export Development Corporation. The sector co-ordinated the participation of Alberta companies in technology transfer missions sponsored by the Canadian International Development Agency for Colombia, Egypt, Morocco, Singapore, and Trinidad.

Mission Co-ordination Sector

This sector co-ordinated activities for 179 incoming delegations from 54 countries, a considerable increase from 122 incoming delegations from 45 countries in the previous fiscal year. In addition, the sector provided assistance for 172 audio-visual presentations and for the distribution of 805 information kits.

International Offices

During the reporting period, trade activity continued through the three international offices associated with the branch.

London. This office co-ordinated ministerial visits to London and to other major centres in Europe. The office is also being used to an increasing extent by Alberta companies seeking guidance and contacts in their pursuit of export opportunities.

Los Angeles. This office participated in six trade missions to the Los Angeles area, evaluated nine trade expositions for potential participation in the future by Alberta interests, and represented the province at business conferences and seminars.

The office also co-ordinated activities during the visit to Los Angeles by the Premier and members of the Cabinet.

Houston. This office participated in the co-ordination of two ministerial missions.

The office was active in pursuing Military Offset Program opportunities and in locating and suggesting appropriate agents to Alberta companies to represent their products in the southwestern United States. Three Texas companies have established plants/offices in Alberta through the encouragement of this office.

The Houston area remains a major procurement base for foreign countries for oil and gas exploration and production equipment, and contact is maintained with these customers.

Industry Development Branch

The objective of the Industry Development Branch is to enhance to the maximum possible extent the activities of business and industries in the province. To this end, the branch:

- ☐ Identifies, counsels, and otherwise assists individuals and companies in establishing new businesses and industries in Alberta, and similarly assists existing businesses and industries to prosper and expand.
- ☐ Encourages joint ventures, technology transfer, and investment between Alberta and domestic and foreign companies.
- ☐ Identifies opportunities for the development and expansion of businesses and industries in Alberta.
- ☐ Proposes appropriate alternative development strategies, action policies, and programs which contribute as effectively as possible to the overall economic and social goals of the province.
- ☐ Implements, administers and evaluates the government's economic development programs as they affect the branch's area of responsibility.
- ☐ Provides government with information on activities and needs in those sectors and business areas which are important to the government's decision-making process.
- ☐ Administers the government's industrial projects policy for major construction developments requiring government approval.
- ☐ Provides assistance to other branches of the department and other departments of government on matters pertaining to the business and industry sectors, on business aspects of scientific and engineering matters, on commercialization of technology, and on industrial science policy.
- ☐ Assists Alberta companies at various trade fairs, conferences, and similar functions.

The branch's work is divided among four sections: Engineering and Construction, Film Industry, High Technology, and Manufacturing. Reports from each are shown later in this branch report. In particular, the branch concentrates its efforts on agricultural equipment, electrical/electronics, plastics, construction/engineering/procurement, film production, high technology/research and development, metal fabrication and service industries. In addition, the branch administers the Product Development Program through which assistance is provided to Alberta companies to develop well-designed, new and innovative products.

Major activities undertaken by the branch during the period under review included:

- Preparation and delivery of presentations regarding the potential of Alberta's economic development to incoming foreign investment missions and groups,

and to senior executives from both Canada and abroad.

- Participation in outgoing missions seeking investment, as well as in those associated with trade and technology shows, in North America, Europe, Middle East and Pacific Rim countries.

Engineering and Construction Section

This section's work plan encompasses three major activities: Alberta/Canadian content in major projects, metal fabrication, and services.

Alberta/Canadian Content in Major Projects. The section works closely with the private sector to maximize Alberta and Canadian content in industrial projects in the province. During the reporting period, Alberta content was 85 per cent in the engineering and management components of such projects; in oil industry construction projects, Alberta content was essentially 100 per cent.

In total, the section monitored engineering plans, procurement activities, bid lists, contracting plans and construction on 35 projects with a total value of \$14.5 billion.

Metal Fabrication. One of the section's prime responsibilities is the growth, expansion and diversification of the metal fabrication, machinery and transportation equipment industries in Alberta.

During the reporting period, the section worked closely with Alberta companies in identifying new opportunities in products and markets, and in rationalizing industrial activity. In some instances, the section assisted with the commercialization of new products. Also, the section assisted Alberta companies with their planning and follow-up procedures for dealing with incoming missions and for participating in trade fairs and shows.

A considerable amount of work was undertaken to assist prospective entrepreneurial immigrants.

Studies were initiated to assess potential opportunities in these metal fabrication areas: automotive/truck parts, micro-steel plants, and heating/ventilating/air conditioning.

Services. The section's responsibilities include counselling companies and individuals in the service sector, especially engineers, and business and electronic data processing consultants. During the reporting period, activity highlights included the following:

- In co-operation with Alberta Utilities and Telecommunications, consultant evaluations were undertaken for the Slave River hydro project.
- Under the "Accelerated Program for Support of Alberta Companies" an increasing number of Alberta firms were assisted in providing goods and services to the Alberta Government.
- Liaison was continued with the federal government, and with other provincial governments, concerning military offset program opportunities and other

Canadian projects. Included among such projects were those related to the oil and gas industry in the Beaufort Sea, in the Northwest Territories, and in the Atlantic offshore.

- When appropriate, companies were helped to identify opportunities, and were offered advice on diversification, development, and planning.
- A control design and manufacturing firm, based in Dallas, Texas, was assisted in locating an operation in Alberta.

Film Industry Section

This section's responsibility is to initiate and maintain contact with international film producers and production companies and to promote the production of Canadian and foreign cinema and television films in Alberta. Some activities, such as location scouting for producers, are contracted to the private sector. During production, producers may call upon the section to effect liaison with all levels of government.

Counselling is provided to Alberta film makers, and the section acts as a link to government for the graphic arts industry, professional photographers, weekly newspapers and the recording industry.

During the reporting period, two major theatrical films were made in Alberta, "Finder's Keeper's" (Calgary and Southern Alberta) and "Draw" (Edmonton and Drumheller). In the case of "Draw", funding assistance was provided from the Alberta Motion Picture Development Corporation.

A number of television commercials and a one-hour special by Playboy Productions were made in the province. Several television dramas were also made in Alberta, including "Change of Heart" (CBC) and "Double Play" (CFRN).

The Alberta Motion Picture Development Corporation provided pre-production funding for 20 projects during the period under review. It is anticipated that many of these will go into production during 1984.

Ten film students were beneficiaries of an on-the-job training program administered by Alberta Education and Manpower. They were also employed during the making of feature films "Draw" and "Finder's Keeper's".

High Technology Section

The objectives of the section include the encouragement of research and development, as well as the growth of high technology industry in Alberta. The section works closely with industry, academia and government to encourage technology transfer, productivity improvement and co-operative research projects. Advice and assistance are provided on high technology opportunities and government support programs.

During the reporting period, activity highlights included the following:

- A discussion paper was developed and distributed under the title "Science and Technology Development in Alberta". The paper outlined a Science Policy Statement for the province. The paper also proposed the establishment of an Alberta Technology Development Authority, the mandate of which would be to direct innovative programs of assistance designed to stimulate high technology development in Alberta.
- An "Adventure Workshop" program was sponsored at the universities of Alberta and Calgary. It was designed to enable MBA students to hone their entrepreneurial skills.
- Productivity audits were sponsored for five Alberta companies. These were designed to determine productivity levels and the potential for improvement.
- A study was completed to identify opportunities for the use, development, and manufacture of computer-aided design and computer-aided manufacturing (CAD/CAM) and robotics equipment.
- Assistance was provided to industry, and co-operation undertaken with other public bodies, in various high technology fields, such as cold regions research, astronomical research, lasers, communications, CAD/CAM, robotics, and advanced materials and processes.

Manufacturing Section

Highlights of activity in this section during the reporting period were as follows:

- The section's Electrical/Electronic unit worked with the branch's High Technology Section, the Alberta Research Council, the universities, and various professional associations, and participated in several studies. These included studies related to computer-aided design and computer-aided manufacturing (CAD/CAM), and to opportunities in data processing for the electronic data processing/telecommunications service industry.
- The Electrical/Electronics unit assisted with the formation of the Software Developers Association of Alberta.
- The section established a Computer and Software unit to service the emerging computer and software industry. This complemented the opening during the year of a computer-aided design facility at the University of Alberta, and the opening of research facilities by various private sector firms.
- An Electronic Investment Seminar was held to help create an awareness among Alberta investors of the opportunities available in the field of electronics.
- Several Alberta companies in the furniture and furnishing sector were assisted in participating in a

European technology mission. The purpose was to identify new products, opportunities and production techniques. A study was commissioned by the department to identify areas in furniture manufacturing and marketing which will enhance the development of domestic and foreign markets.

- The section's Plastics and Textiles unit assisted companies to establish film blowing and blow molding facilities in Alberta. An exploratory mission to the United Kingdom identified potential involvement of British companies in Alberta. In addition, a study was made on plastic recycling in co-operation with the Department of Environment.
- A mission was completed to the California area to survey developments and report on industrial development contacts with various organizations and local governments.
- A mission to Japan identified investment and joint venture possibilities in Alberta with Japanese firms.
- The Product Development Program assists Alberta manufacturers to improve the design and quality of their existing products or to develop new and innovative products by providing 75 per cent of the cost of product development to a maximum of \$30,000 per project. To date the program has supported 54 projects.

Process Industry Development Branch

The objective of the Process Industry Development Branch is to maximize the performance and development in Alberta of the following sectors: chemicals, energy, metals and minerals, food processing, forest products, health care, and industrial investment. To this end, the branch:

- ☐ Provides guidance on the site location, sources and use of financing, business planning, government regulations and services (federal, provincial and municipal), market data sources, technical and production problems, and information related to resources.
- ☐ Proposes alternative strategies for the development of key process industry sectors.
- ☐ Implements and operates the Alberta Government's industrial development policy.
- ☐ Identifies opportunities and stimulates action to realize these opportunities by encouraging new investment, both domestic and foreign, preference being given to joint ventures involving Albertans.
- ☐ Maintains co-ordination and linkage between industry, investors and the financial community.
- ☐ Develops marketing strategies, proposes programs, and identifies market demand factors for the process industry sector.
- ☐ Provides assistance on industrial and technical matters to the Ministers, and develops policy advice on topics related to sector activities.

Reports from the process industry sectors follow on this and subsequent pages.

Chemicals Sector

During the 1983-84 fiscal year, this sector:

- Reviewed the competitiveness of the Alberta petrochemical industry relative to other major producing areas in the world. This involved development of a computer model, two separate studies, and contact with existing industry and other government departments. Options to improve the competitive position of Alberta petrochemical producers were identified.
- Assisted Albertan and other Canadian petrochemical companies to market their products and technology to the Peoples' Republic of China, and participated in a major mission to China in March 1984.
- Identified non-commodity chemical manufacturing opportunities in Alberta. These opportunities, which represent high potential candidates for Alberta production, will be brought to the attention of potential investors.
- Co-ordinated departmental input to an interdepartmental study of property taxation levels for heavy

industry in Alberta relative to other provinces. This study resulted in a policy recommendation.

- Continued investment promotion activities by meeting with over 250 companies and hosting 100 missions.
- Provided assistance as required in the continued construction of a number of petrochemical plants in the province.

Energy Sector

During the 1983-84 fiscal year, this sector:

- Prepared and published an information booklet entitled "Coal in Alberta". This was distributed to prospective developers as well as to present and potential international coal customers.
- Worked with the newly formed Industrial Power Consumers Association of Alberta to assist it to bring various power-related issues to the attention of government.
- Monitored domestic and international developments affecting natural gas sales, and provided advice and information as required. The study of these issues was included in this activity: proposed United States gas deregulation, gas pricing to Eastern Canada, implications of the Federal Petrochemical Industry Task Force recommendations, the Western LNG project, and the likelihood and impacts of continued ethane export sales.
- Consulted with Alberta coal producers and recommended measures to assist industry in its international marketing efforts.
- Liaised with Alberta methanol producers in their efforts to introduce methanol to vehicle fuel use.

Metals and Minerals Sector

During the 1983-84 fiscal year, this sector:

- Assisted several companies which propose to initiate primary metal production in Alberta.

Food Industries Sector

During the 1983-84 fiscal year, this sector:

- Met food processing companies located in Alberta, in other regions of Canada, in the western United States, and in Europe regarding development opportunities in Alberta. Investment seminars in Europe prompted the visit to Alberta by a mission of industrial food processing and equipment manufacturing companies from Denmark.
- Continued the company contact program. This resulted in a number of direct investment proposals, joint venture and licensing arrangement possibilities including specialty processed meats, specialty cheese, baked

goods, confectionery, natural foods, beverage products, salad dressings, snack foods and portion-packed condiments. Several plants were under construction or were completed in the 1983-84 fiscal year. Several Alberta companies announced major expansion to their processing facilities.

- Evaluated the feasibility of an industrial food park for Alberta and opportunities for development in Alberta's vegetable processing industry.
- Evaluated and made recommendations on renewal and expansion of the federal/provincial Nutritive Processing Agreement (NPA). Assisted with the development of the Alberta position on the NPA.
- Co-sponsored the "Western Canadian Economic Conference on the Food Industry". This was attended by approximately 90 participants.

Forest Industries Sector

During the 1983-84 fiscal year, this sector:

- Continued investment development activities and export development opportunities. This involved visits to Alberta by three foreign missions concerning plywood, site-built and prefabricated homes.
- Organized a seminar to promote use of Alberta forest products within the province.
- Provided assistance to the Alberta forest products industry to establish product acceptance under several provincial building codes.
- Assisted with drafting a standard for waferboard/oriented strand board for the Canadian Standards Association.
- Undertook a feasibility study for lumber remanufacturing in Central Alberta. The results indicated a good opportunity for development.
- Undertook major reviews of sawmill modernization, status of the secondary forest products industry, transportation of forest products and raw materials, and opportunities for production of fine paper.
- Continued funding and assisted with the Forest Products and Forest Industrial Development Research Program at the Alberta Research Council.
- Continued to review the Brazeau Development Proposals and explored alternatives. Development options for the Berland Fox Forest were also under review.

Health Care Industries Sector

During the 1983-84 fiscal year, this sector:

- Continued to support changes to Section 41 of the Federal Patent Act to facilitate attracting new investment in research, development and production of health care products in Alberta.
- Discussed research and development opportunities

with Alberta-based health care facilities and pharmaceutical manufacturing companies.

- Initiated contacts with health care corporations in Canada and internationally to maximize their awareness of Alberta's capabilities in the health care field.
- Initiated activity to encourage development of a mechanism to promote commercialization of results of research from government-supported institutions.
- Pursued the identification of opportunities for Alberta-based manufacturers of hospital supplies and for other health care industries.

Investment Sector

During the 1983-84 fiscal year, this sector:

- Provided counselling to approximately 60 businesses seeking capital.
- Sponsored seminars on venture capital, research and development (R & D) tax shelters, and on raising capital.
- Promoted group investor presentations; 20 investors attended presentations by three companies seeking capital.
- Provided assessment on the federal R & D Tax Incentives document and developed position papers on other tax-related documents.
- Undertook development of a capability for specialist financial services.

Planning and Services Division

Strategic Planning Branch
Transportation Services Branch
Alberta Agency for International Development



Planning and Services Division

The Planning and Services Division is responsible for research, policy planning, consultation and negotiation in various areas related to the development of the province's economy. The division also undertakes research, policy development, and projects to see that improvements are made to freight and passenger transportation services.

The division's responsibilities are undertaken principally by its two branches: Strategic Planning and Transportation Services. In addition, the division is responsible for the Alberta Agency for International Development.

During the reporting period, a full range of programs and projects was undertaken. Special emphasis was placed on developments in trade policy, considerations for a revised economic strategy, regulatory reform, and the implications of long-term economic cycles.

Transportation activities of particular note encompassed the areas of grain handling and transportation, container systems, aviation policy and high-speed passenger trains.

In both branches, work on major policy issues continued, much of it involving interface with federal and other governments.

Following on this and subsequent pages are highlights of the work of the division's two branches and of the Alberta Agency for International Development.

Strategic Planning Branch

The fundamental objective of the Department of Economic Development is to implement the economic strategy of the Government of Alberta. The fundamental objective of the Strategic Planning Branch is to provide the detailed development of that strategy and the planning direction required for its satisfactory implementation.

The main thrust of branch activity is to identify the best opportunities for achieving the goals and objectives of the Government of Alberta with respect to economic development. The branch looks to the future and assesses the threats and opportunities which await the provincial economy. Branch staff are responsible for examining the implications of these with respect to the province's strengths and weaknesses and, within the terms of the department's mandate, to advise on the best course of action, to prepare policy and strategy recommendations, to monitor policy implementation, and to provide feedback on performance.

With respect to interdepartmental activities, the branch has three functions: to provide research assistance, to disseminate research information, and to co-ordinate services in areas where there is overlap between branches and between departments.

The principal activities for which the branch is responsible are these:

Departmental Planning. The branch works with other branches of the department to produce annual and longer-term statements on concerns that affect the department's mandate and goals. These statements, tied to specific work programs, help steer all branch efforts more precisely. They serve also as the first stage of the annual budgeting process.

The branch prepares briefing materials for ministerial and deputy minister conferences, evaluates and develops provincial positions on federal and provincial economic programs, and makes recommendations as appropriate.

Economic/Financial Analysis. The branch maintains a capacity to evaluate the financial status of proposed projects. This includes financial and cost/benefit analyses.

Research. The branch co-ordinates research activities and the management of the department's consultant policy.

Program Evaluation. The branch evaluates federal and provincial policies and programs as well as projects initiated by other branches. In this role, the branch represents the department on appropriate interdepartmental and federal/provincial committees.

Information Dissemination. The branch prepares and delivers business and economic information for and to the private and public sectors. This includes processing information requests, and the development of publications and appropriate information systems.

During the reporting period, the branch prepared the following publications: Alberta Exports 1983, Country Trade Profiles, and Alberta Profile.

Co-ordination of Departmental Policy and Positions. The branch co-ordinates departmental policy and positions on economic development issues, particularly on those that cross branch and division lines.

* * *

The branch is structured to follow the various stages of the management process. There are, thus, these four directorates: Development Priorities and Evaluation, Futures Assessment, Domestic Economic Structural Analysis, and International Structural Analysis. Details follow of each directorate's activities during the reporting period.

Development Priorities and Evaluation

This directorate deals with aspects of economic development which concern objectives and performance. Its responsibilities are to develop the detailed and quantitative measures required to evaluate Alberta's economic development, and to provide the analysis necessary to assess economic prospects and opportunities. The directorate also feeds back information that enables the province's economic strategy to develop over time as conditions change.

Principal activities during the reporting period included:

- Developing and monitoring policy initiatives to assist and strengthen the private sector in Alberta.
- Designing and recommending industrial incentive programs to promote investment in support of economic development objectives.
- Forecasting and monitoring investment trends in Alberta's manufacturing sector, and recommending policy initiatives that anticipate future problems.
- Participating in the development of industry sector strategies in response not only to growth opportunities, but also to address structural weaknesses.
- Reviewing industrial location factors important to Alberta's competitiveness, and recommending remedial action where required.
- Reviewing and participating in the development of energy policy with respect to its impact on industry sectors and on overall economic growth in the province.
- Participating in the review of industrial benefit and economic impact issues associated with major development undertakings.

Futures Assessment

This directorate monitors and analyses significant world trends in technology, resources, international trade and financial institutions, as well as in social values and institutions, which could present threats to provincial opportunities for economic development in the long term. It focuses particularly on sectors and geographic markets which hold the most promise for Alberta.

A set of alternative world economic scenarios has been created. These are updated regularly, based on information gained from a scanning and monitoring system that identifies and interprets significant trends and events. Thus, a backdrop is created against which economic development initiatives can be assessed. These scenarios are provided to various government departments and agencies in the province.

Projects completed during the reporting period included:

- Study of computer-aided design and computer-aided manufacturing (CAD/CAM) opportunities for Alberta.
- Assessment of structural changes in world trade.
- Review of science and technology policy in Alberta.
- Study of long-wave theory of economic change.
- Participation in an interdepartmental task force on management education in Alberta.

Ongoing projects during the reporting period included:

- Scanning and monitoring significant trends and events influencing the future course of the economy.
- Assessment of various new approaches to futures study.

Domestic Economic Structural Analysis

This directorate advises which policies, institutions and instruments are most appropriate for a given economic development objective. Improvements to existing policies are considered from a provincial and a federal/provincial perspective. This includes such factors as government regulations, foreign investment, manpower, immigration, procurement, competition, research and development, and interprovincial/territorial trade.

Ongoing projects during the reporting period included:

- Co-ordination of analyses of federal industrial and regional strategies, and assessment of their impact on Alberta.
- Analysis of foreign investment applications referred to Alberta by the Foreign Investment Review Agency.

- Analysis of entrepreneurial immigrant cases referred to Alberta by Employment and Immigration Canada.
- Development of provincial positions on federal foreign investment policies and procedural initiatives.
- Development of provincial positions on federal immigration policies and their impact on the Alberta economy.
- Assessment of government procurement policies at the federal and provincial levels.
- Co-ordination of departmental activities related to regulatory reform and to competition policy.

International Economic Structural Analysis

Reflecting the Alberta Government's recognition of the importance of trade to the economy, this directorate evaluates trends in world trade and assesses the impact of provincial, national, and international legislation, programs, and policies on Alberta trade.

One of its prime functions is to ensure the co-ordination of trade policy among departments in the Alberta Government. This involves providing recommendations to Ministers on policies and organizational forms, and monitoring trade policy initiatives of other departments to ensure they are consistent with Alberta's overall trade policy.

Ongoing activities during the reporting period included:

- Developing an International Trade Strategy Paper for Alberta.
- Drafting and co-ordinating a paper on and work plan for a Western Provincial Co-operation in Trade program, which will be implemented during 1984-85.
- Preparing reports on Alberta exports of services, gas and oilfield equipment, and agricultural equipment.
- Developing a recommended Alberta position on limited sector free trade talks between Canada and the United States.
- Developing a federal/provincial agreement on a process to improve the quality of provincial export statistics.
- Acting as the secretariat to the Interprovincial Deputy Ministers of Trade, which is chaired by the Government of Alberta.
- Implementing a comparison of export programs and policies in other jurisdictions within Canada and internationally to determine the competitiveness of Alberta programs.
- Drafting an interprovincial paper on Canada/United States relations that provides a basis for improved trade opportunities with the United States.
- Assisting the private sector where specific trade barriers have been identified.

Transportation Services Branch

Transportation is a key underpinning for any economy, especially one that is highly export-oriented. For Albertans, transportation is particularly important because of the great distances to be travelled by industrial products and by executives conducting business. Consequently, the Transportation Services Branch emphasizes the following objectives.

- ☐ Ensuring that infrastructure planning and maintenance will meet Alberta's requirements.
- ☐ Ensuring that passenger and freight services will adequately meet present and future requirements on an economic basis.
- ☐ Making recommendations on transportation policies and regulations which will assist industry keep transportation-related costs and obstacles to a minimum.
- ☐ Encouraging innovation in the transportation system in order to better serve existing and new markets.

In pursuit of these objectives, the branch maintains ongoing contacts with industry groups, municipalities and counties, and providers of transportation-related facilities and equipment, as well as with provincial, federal and foreign government officials. The worldwide character of Alberta's trading patterns also requires the monitoring of national and international trends and developments in transportation-related matters.

During the 1983-84 fiscal year, the branch was reorganized into these four sections: Transportation Economics and Analysis, Freight Transportation Services, Agricultural Transportation, and Passenger Transportation.

Reports from each of these operating sections follow.

Transportation Economics and Analysis Section

This section specializes in the pricing of transport services, methods of estimating transportation costs, and transportation economics.

Primary functions of the section are:

- ☐ To evaluate, recommend policy, and initiate action on freight rate structures, regulations, and pricing techniques of the various modes of transport.
- ☐ To evaluate, recommend policy, and initiate action on costing methodology used by transportation companies, or prescribed by government bodies, where these costs affect the public interest.
- ☐ To provide and analyse freight rate, traffic, and cost data for other components of Alberta Economic Development and the public.

Major issues addressed during the 1983-84 fiscal year included the following:

Western Grain Transportation Act. This act, which came into force on January 1, 1984, is the successor to the Crow rate legislation. The section evaluated the procedures used in the annual update process for grain freight rates established in the Act, and recommended modifications to Alberta shippers and federal agencies to improve the accuracy of this update.

Canadian Transport Commission Hearing on the Cost of Capital. Working with the other nine provinces, the section prepared evidence for this hearing, the objective of which was to provide a methodology for estimating the cost of railway debt and equity. This cost, while providing adequate capital for rail expansion, must also result in the minimum freight rate possible.

Branch Line Abandonment. The section undertook a number of activities in support of municipalities whose branch lines were subject to abandonment hearings. These activities involved economic analyses of the lines in question, and representations to the Canadian Transport Commission where necessary.

Rail Rate Regulation. Two major areas of research and analysis included the issue of collective railway freight pricing as allowed in Canada by Section 279 of the Railway Act, and the impact on Alberta of deregulation of United States railways by the 1980 Staggers Act.

Analysis of Freight Rates for Agricultural Products. Support for retention of minimum compensatory rates east of Thunder Bay was provided to the Western Canada crushing industry.

Freight Transportation Services Section

The responsibility of this section is to ensure that movement of goods domestically, internationally and off-shore is maintained adequately to meet the needs of Alberta shippers, as well as to ensure the availability of adequate transportation infrastructures and services within Alberta and Canada. Significant issues handled during the reporting period included the following:

Alberta-Based Inland Port and Container Distribution System. The concept of an Alberta-based domestic and international container distribution system was further developed, and the feasibility of the concept was established. Cabinet approval in principle was received to work toward system implementation, and detailed planning was initiated. The system is expected to provide attractive shipping alternatives for manufacturers, producers, exporters and others.

Lake Athabasca Services. Agreement was reached with the federal government to continue dredging the

Athabasca River and delta for the next six years. Federal authorities will also provide a truck-barge transfer facility on the east side of the river opposite Fort MacKay, thus ensuring barge services to remote communities to 1990.

Regulation of the Movement of Dangerous Goods. The province's economy is heavily weighted toward the production and use of commodities deemed to be hazardous when handled and transported. Alberta Disaster Services and the section co-sponsored a study to determine dangerous goods traffic patterns, and the degree to which regulations begin to function as a restraint of trade.

Alberta as a Key Distribution Point. A review was undertaken which determined that Alberta has distinct advantages as a major distribution point in Western Canada for a number of industry groups. The availability of favourable outbound freight rates, as well as the efficiency at which a number of markets can be covered from Alberta, are among the most significant factors.

Prince Rupert Grain Terminal Development. The branch continued to work closely with Prince Rupert Grain Ltd. on the realization of the new grain terminal in Prince Rupert, B.C. The facility, which will be one of the most efficient grain terminals in the world, will be able to receive, clean and store grain in a co-ordinated, continuous manner. The \$275 million project is on budget and is scheduled for completion early in 1985. Eighty per cent of the financing is being provided by the Alberta Government. Initial throughput capacity will be 3.5 million tonnes. Throughput can be increased to 7.0 million tonnes at a later date, if required.

Agricultural Transportation Section

This section is responsible for planning, developing, and administering programs on agricultural transportation. The section monitors and assesses current agricultural transportation programs through liaison with other government departments and agencies, and advises on the formulation of policy pertaining to all related agricultural transportation issues.

During the reporting period the following major issues were addressed:

Analysis, review and policy formulation for revision of the statutory freight rates for moving grain. The section participated in the statutory rate reform process in an attempt to encourage improvement and efficiency in the grain handling and transportation system. Activities included review of policy alternatives, analysis of economic and social impacts and preparation of a provincial submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Transport. This submission recommended major improvements to legislation introduced to change the statutory rates.

Administration of hopper cars financed from the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund. Between 1980 and 1982, the Government of Alberta purchased 1,000 hopper cars. Cost of the cars was met from the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund. In the 1982-83 crop year, these cars made up approximately 3.7 per cent of the nation's grain fleet and transported approximately 1.4 million tonnes of grain. This volume represented 4.9 per cent of total Canadian tonnage moved to export.

Other activities included:

- Examination of transport and other issues facing the Alberta meat packing and processing sector.
- Analysis and review of institutions and regulations governing the marketing of grain and grain products.
- Analysis of the operation of the export and domestic grain marketing systems including a review of proposed changes to Canada's feed grain policy.

Passenger Transportation Section

This section's sphere of interest includes both surface and air modes of passenger transportation. The section endeavours to ensure that infrastructure and levels of services are adequate to meet the needs of rural and urban Albertans.

During the 1983-84 fiscal year, many important issues were addressed. They included the following:

High-Speed Rail Passenger Service between Calgary and Edmonton. A market study indicated that a high-speed rail service, taking two hours or less to link Calgary and Edmonton, would be patronized by many people now travelling between the two cities. A preliminary financial assessment undertaken during the reporting period showed the project to be viable and potentially a valuable addition to the province's economy and transportation infrastructure. Based on these findings, studies will be started to assess the right-of-way for a high-speed rail line in more detail.

VIA Rail's Calgary-Edmonton Service. Several briefs concerning service quality have been submitted to the Canadian Transport Commission with a view to extending the interim service over time, as well as into downtown Edmonton.

Western Transcontinental Passenger Rail Service. Work continued to restore and improve rail passenger service, particularly the CN route through Edmonton.

Canadian Transport Commission (CTC) Hearings into Air Fare Issues. A paper covering Alberta's position was presented at CTC hearings. It addressed fare issues along with the broader implications of air deregulation.

Lethbridge Railway Relocation Project. The construction phase of the project was completed in September

1983, with the official opening of CP Rail's new Lethbridge yards at Kipp-Coalhurst. Realignment of the main line through Lethbridge is under way and is scheduled for completion by late 1984. Redevelopment of the former railway property has been initiated; and calls for proposals have been issued for the largest of the vacated parcels.

Fort Saskatchewan Railway Relocation Project. Studies investigating the technical and economic feasibility of relocating CN Rail's trackage out of downtown Fort Saskatchewan were completed during this fiscal year. Formal negotiations with the railway are expected to begin in the 1984-85 fiscal year.

Alberta Agency for International Development

Alberta's support for international development is based on helping people help themselves. Thus, it is considered important that people to whom aid is to be provided play a major role in deciding what development activities will be undertaken in their community or village, and that they be actively involved in project implementation. The result is that aid may take many forms. It may mean the injection into a village of sufficient funds to purchase piping for an irrigation system, tools for a carpentry shop, a pump for a well, or the initial stock for a goat herd. It may mean providing technically qualified advisers to work with the villagers, ensuring that the orchard they are planting, or the small business on which they are embarking, or the marketing co-operative they are forming, is developed in the best and most efficient way possible. It may mean providing materials and trainers so that people may learn new and useful skills.

Through its grant program, the Alberta Agency for International Development assists more than 90 Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in work of this type. The NGOs operate primarily at local, rural, community and village levels in the world's less-developed countries. Some projects are undertaken in cities.

The agency gives preference to projects which help increase productivity and incomes, create employment, develop skills, improve health, and encourage the use of local resources. Assistance is also given by the agency to some relief projects, in which emergency supplies of food, medical and other life supportive items are required.

The amount of grant money available to an NGO is set annually at the start of its fiscal year. The amount is based on the net amount of money the NGO raised on its own behalf in Alberta during the previous completed fiscal year. Once an NGO's total grant level is set, it may submit projects to the agency for approval. When a project is approved, the NGO receives financial assistance to supplement the amount it is contributing to the project from its own privately raised resources. The NGO must commit itself to report to the agency on its use of the financial assistance received.

The 1983-84 fiscal year marked the 10th anniversary of this international development program. During the 10 years of its existence, the program has contributed in excess of \$46 million to Canadian NGOs for the support of 2,372 separate projects. During the 10-year period, the identified private contributions made by Alberta residents to Canadian NGOs exceeded \$60 million.

Program highlights in the 1983-84 fiscal year included these activities:

- 468 projects received financial assistance, an increase of 153 projects over the previous year.
- 74 NGOs received financial assistance.
- Projects were conducted in 80 countries.
- Government financial assistance to the NGOs totalled \$6,998,889, as shown in the listing on the opposite page.
- A special Ministerial Fund of \$350,000 was established to augment the amounts raised by wholly Alberta NGOs during the year.
- Assistance was provided in setting up the Camrose One World Institute. This is a projects office providing Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) project funding to small, indigenous Alberta NGOs.
- An active role was taken in the development of the South Asia Partnership. This is a partnership of Canadian, Bangladeshi, Indian and Sri Lankan NGOs. Its first international meeting outside Asia was held in Edmonton in October 1983.

Alberta Agency for International Development

Contributions made to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

Non-Governmental Organizations	1981-82		1982-83		1983-84	
	Projects	\$	Projects	\$	Projects	\$
Aga Khan Foundation Canada			3	50,000	5	446,221
Alberta Conference of the Seventh Day Adventist Church	10	162,182	7	166,162	5	136,235
Alberta Conference of the United Church	9	95,300	12	132,000	16	146,000
Alberta Teachers' Association	4	19,593	3	25,000	3	21,500
Anglican Primate's World Relief and Development Fund	3	31,798	4	64,000	5	60,024
Baptist Union of Western Canada	3	49,610	2	47,000	2	50,786
Calgary Inter-Faith Community Action Association	2	73,165	1	17,350		
Camrose One World Institute					3	3,737
Canada World Youth			1	24,000		
Canadian Catholic Organization for Development & Peace	71	372,946	48	262,425	54	321,547
Canadian Children's Foundation					1	10,780
Canadian Crossroads International	3	17,000	3	16,000	2	10,986
Canadian Executive Service Overseas	1	11,732	2	6,000	1	4,384
Canadian Hunger Foundation	2	37,468	1	44,000	1	13,560
Canadian Institute of Cultural Affairs	1	4,500	1	4,000	1	4,128
Canadian Jesuit Missions	3	66,451	2	39,750	2	38,841
Canadian Lutheran World Relief	24	235,205	15	345,480	16	254,015
Canadian Organization for Development through Education	2	37,800	3	129,000	1	25,729
Canadian Organization for Rehabilitation through Training	1	124,970	1	112,000	1	52,669
Canadian Red Cross Society	5	103,499	4	95,240	2	41,043
Canadian Save the Children Fund (CanSave)	7	197,614	5	173,478	4	139,816
Canadian University Service Overseas	10	67,212	7	50,000	12	47,873
Canadian Vision Caravan			1	4,500	1	16,375
Cardinal Leger and His Endeavours			1	2,500	4	105,124
CARE Canada	5	204,546	6	350,725	1	127,778
Change for Children Association of Alberta	1	3,300	1	2,956	5	51,800
Children of Islamic Nations					1	1,250
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)	1	3,648				
Christian Reformed World Relief Committee of Canada	2	366,411	4	267,250	3	192,507
Church of the Nazarene	2	48,000	2	45,000	6	77,750
Compassion of Canada	9	126,239	6	109,500	2	45,159
Co-operative Development Foundation	3	32,120	3	14,164	1	1,350
Ealam Tamil Association			1	2,600		
Edmonton Society for Overseas Aid	1	7,266				
Elkay's Overseas Student Aid Society	2	7,634	1	1,875	1	1,550
Emmanuel Relief and Rehabilitation International	1	22,000	1	19,000	1	20,339
Fame Peree Institute			1	3,500	1	2,332
Food for the Hungry/Canada	4	42,884	9	89,000	8	210,864
Foster Parents Plan of Canada	9	1,303,665	6	970,000	6	1,052,279
Friends of the Lord's Ranch					1	4,713

Planning and Services Division

Non-Governmental Organizations	1981-82		1982-83		1983-84	
	Projects	\$	Projects	\$	Projects	\$
Frontiers Foundation Inc.	2	65,467	3	49,000	1	19,918
Horizons of Friendship	1	21,000	1	14,250	1	99,793
International Child Care (Canada) Inc.	1	12,878	1	9,750	1	6,387
Inter Pares			1	35,000	1	15,765
International Sound Foundation Society					1	889
L'Arche Association of Edmonton	2	3,110	1	1,500	1	6,267
Leprosy Mission of Canada	2	50,000	2	44,700		
MATCH International Centre			6	7,300	6	8,071
Mennonite Central Committee	6	404,468	9	332,894	10	317,998
Mennonite Economic Development Associates			1	4,212		
Mission Aviation Fellowship of Canada			2	41,500		
Mission Possible (Canada)			1	3,000	1	8,107
Moravian Mission Development Fund					1	7,000
Mother Teresa Habitat Institute of Alberta			3	21,000	1	28,001
Oblate Fathers			1	3,750		
Olds College Alumni Association					1	500
Operation Eyesight Universal	1	254,724	1	223,000	4	184,107
OXFAM Canada	7	31,458	6	25,500	11	35,665
The Path Foundation			1	9,000		
Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada	10	447,500	8	476,689	8	353,758
Plenty Relief Society of Canada			1	1,625	4	18,493
Presbyterian Church in Canada	13	32,307	5	20,625	5	36,320
Project Concern Alberta	2	69,123	1	17,963	2	21,147
Pueblito Canada Inc.	2	6,835	2	19,475	2	12,173
Rotary District 536 Development Society	4	15,456	3	29,600	3	7,300
Sahakarini Inter-World Education and Development Association	13	22,010	2	8,089	4	19,300
The Salvation Army	5	56,000	2	20,000	3	43,261
Save a Family Plan	3	58,500	2	36,750	1	37,250
Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute			1	15,000	1	8,241
Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation	1	1,000	1	3,500		
Sisters of Charity of Providence	1	9,000				
St. Joseph's Save the Children Club	6	2,990	8	15,635	11	34,387
Sudan Interior Mission (SIM) Canada	7	244,555	11	204,000	6	165,282
Tibetan Refugee Aid Society	1	2,476				
UNICEF	5	569,313	9	583,900	8	321,708
Unitarian Service Committee	13	124,318	10	182,000	19	136,280
University of Alberta					9	14,804
University of Calgary	1	39,000	1	24,000	1	40,416
World Concern Canada Association			1	7,500	1	34,749
World Missions for Jesus Canada			1	10,000	1	22,822
World Vision of Canada	18	328,290	27	553,686	148	1,083,515
Wycliffe Bible Translators of Canada Inc.	5	212,493	5	241,250	5	188,500
Yanta Cultural Society	1	80,000				
Y.M.C.A. Alberta Region			1	7,500	1	10,000
Y.M.C.A. of Edmonton			1	2,500	5	5,400
Y.W.C.A.	1	6,750	1	5,767	2	5,483
Youth with a Mission	1	1,820	1	1,125	1	4,011
Zonta Club of Edmonton	2	2,800	1	750	1	1,100
TOTAL	338	7,000,819	318	6,899,000	408	6,998,000

POOR

QUALITY

ORIGINAL